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NEWS RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announces the sentencing yesterday of Richmond residents Ann Marie Barrineau, 21 years old; Karl Joseph Hochstrasser, 25 years old; and John A. Kitchen, 30 years old, to 9 years and 4 months imprisonment each by United States District Court Judge Richard L. Williams. Each defendant previously pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bank robbery and three counts of bank robbery.

During the first week of October 2002 John A. Kitchen robbed the BB&T bank located at 6980 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia; the First Virginia Bank located at 1883 South Crater Road, Petersburg, Virginia; the BB&T bank located at 2609 Boulevard, Colonial Heights, Virginia, and the First Market Bank located at 4390 S. Laburnum Ave, Henrico County, Virginia. In each instance, Kitchen approached a teller, presented a demand note announcing a robbery, and threatening possession of a firearm. The tellers complied with Kitchen's demands and gave him U.S. currency. Kitchen took the money, ran out of the banks, and entered a stolen gold Nissan, where Ann Marie Barrineau and Karl Joseph Hochstrasser were waiting. Defendant Barrineau drove the getaway vehicle in each instance. After each robbery, Kitchen compensated Barrineau and Hochstrasser for their participation.

Joining Mr. McNulty in this announcement is Donald Thompson, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI, Richmond Field Office.

The case was investigated by the FBI, City of Richmond Police Department, City of Petersburg Police Department, Colonial Heights Police Department, and the Henrico County Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Roderick C. Young prosecuted the case for the United States.